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GOOD RECEIPTS AT T WHARF.

MARKET DROPPED A LITTLE BUT FARES AS A WHOLE BROUGHT GOOD PRICES.

There is a fine lot of fish fares at T wharf today. No less than 32 craft are in and there isn't hardly a poor trip in the lot.

Three of the off-shore rafts from Georges, have the usual good haddock fares and some of the market boats too struck good haddock fishing on the shore, several having from 10,000 to 14,000 pounds of this kind of fish, most of them getting them on one set.

There is a better look on codfish too, and four of the bay netters have from 3000 to 6000 pounds each.

On the liberal receipts of shore haddock, the market sagged a bit, off-shore bringing \$2 and shores only \$2.65. Large cod went at \$4.50 to \$5, pollock at \$3.50 and hake from \$3 to \$5.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:
Sch. Mattakesett, 7000 haddock, 1900 cod, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Galatea, 5500 haddock, 1400 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Mary E. Cooney, 10,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Clara G. Silva, 5000 haddock, 400 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 8500 haddock, 2500 cod, 3000 pollock.

Sch. Mary DeCosta, 10,000 haddock, 1600 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, 3500 haddock, 1000 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Warren M. Goodspeed, 15,000 haddock, 1500 cod, 2000 hake.

Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan, 12,000 haddock, 400 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Marguerite S. McKenzie, 5700 cod.

Sch. Hobo, 5000 cod.

Sch. Etta B, 3000 cod.

Sch. On Time, 3000 cod.

Sch. Little Fannie, 1000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Helen B. Thomas, 11,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 5000 hake.

Sch. Genesta, 8000 haddock, 500 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Annie and Jennie, 1200 haddock, 300 cod, 100 hake.

Sch. Eddie A. Minot, 1500 cod.

Sch. Athena, 10,000 haddock, 1500 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Manhasset, 55,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Regina, 50,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2500 hake.

Sch. Fannie Belle Atwood, 50,000 haddock, 4000 cod.

Sch. Matchless, 13,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2500 hake.

Sch. Rose Dorothea, 20,000 haddock, 1400 cod.

Sch. Harriet, 6000 haddock, 2000 cod, 4500 hake.

Sch. Motor, 3000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2000 cusk.

Sch. Rita A. Viator, 2500 haddock, 1000 cod, 2200 pollock.

Sch. Mary Edith, 6000 haddock, 400 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Margaret Dillon, 10,000 haddock, 800 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Buena, 14,000 haddock, 600 cod, 1500 hake.

Sch. Sylvia M. Nunan, 8000 haddock, 2100 cod, 5000 hake.

Sch. Valentina, 3000 haddock, 200 cod, 200 hake.

Haddock, \$2 to \$2.65 per cwt.; large cod, \$4.50 to \$5; market cod, \$3 to \$4; hake, \$3 to \$5; pollock, \$3.50; cusk, \$2.50.

Fulton Market Notes.

The past week was a very poor one as far as business in the salt water fish market was concerned. Nearly all stock was high in price, and local buyers did not care to buy any large stocks.

The shipping trade was fairly good. Had prices been lower there would have been more business.

Codfish was high in price during the early part of the week. Up to Wednesday only five codfish smacks reached port, bringing 4200 fish. Some of the dealers thought there would be a great scarcity of cod and ordered heavily, and of course netted a loss, for 22 vessels reached the market between noon Wednesday and Friday morning, with over 10,000 fish, which was more than sufficient to meet the late day demand. Prices for steak cod dropped from 9c to 10c on Tuesday to 7c to 8c yesterday. Market codfish sold at 4c to 5c during the entire week with the exception of Thursday, when 5c to 6c was the quotation.

Flounders were high in price during the early part of the week, the quotation from Saturday to Wednesday being 7c to 8c. On Thursday 4c to 5c

were asked. Yesterday 4c flat was the price.

Haddock sold at 3c to 4c up to Wednesday, when the price advanced 1c per pound. The advance continued until the closing of the market.

Halibut—There was some green eastern halibut in the market on Saturday. It had been carried over from earlier in the week and sold at 13c to 18c. Western white halibut was scarce and brought 16c to 18c during the entire week.

Hake—Five cents flat was the price during the entire week.

Weed Steals Oysters.

A seaweed has invaded the oyster beds of France and carried off 400,000 oysters. The minute seeds of this weed float up the English channel in the current of the gulf stream, settle on oysters in the Breton beds of Morbihan, Quiberon and Belle Isle, and they grow to the size of duck's eggs. They are full of water, but at maturity the water evaporates, and air takes its place. The egg shaped seaweed is then a balloon, and, like a balloon, it lifts its oyster from the bottom and bears it out to sea.

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No Clam Trust at Portland.

The price of clams will not be put up in Portland.

There will be no clam trust.

Of course no trust to handle the bivalves had been planned but a number of the dealers in Portland had hoped to get together and put the price up some. Several meetings were held, a schedule of prices made up and it seemed as if everything was going smoothly. Then one or two of the dealers did not come in and so the whole thing fell through.

But if the rise in price has not gone into effect at present, it may at some future time. The dealers declare that conditions have come to be such that there is absolutely no profit in clams. The bivalves are growing smaller and they are growing fewer. It takes more of them to make up a quart when they are shocked and the man who digs them has to go farther to secure them. At the first of the present winter when the cold snap struck in and some ice formed along the shore and covered the flats, the tides came bad at the time so that the diggers could not get after the shellfish.

These adverse conditions at the start of the season made it look as if it would be a bad winter for the clam dealers and so they planned to put up the price. They declare the supply has been so small that they can hardly get a living.

During the past few days, however, there has been a change in the appearance of the clam market. The bivalves under the favorable conditions, have been dug in larger quantities than for some time. As a result there has been almost a superfluity of them; over 130 barrels were received by one firm last week for canning purposes. The warm weather had somewhat to do with the breaking of the proposed agreement and so the clams will sell for their same old price for the remainder of the present winter at any rate.

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A CRITICAL JUNCTURE.

It must be patent to every observer, whatever his degree of intelligence, that Gloucester is at the present time facing the most critical point in its business history. The reciprocal relations with Canada, which have been under discussion for some time, include, to all accounts the admission of fish free of duty to the United States. The people engaged in that line of work in this city, and those dependent upon them in auxiliary lines and in trade, and that includes about the entire population, assert that free fish means the ruin of the city in a business way, while on the other hand there is the very evident strong feeling for a reciprocity treaty with Canada which shall mean something.

Reciprocity to mean anything means equal advantage to each side engaging in the arrangement. Canada produces fish plentifully and cheaply and naturally desires an outlet for it. It is inevitable that she should want to reach the markets of the United States with her products in this very important line, and it is highly probable that she has made this one of her chief in-

sistences in the reciprocity discussion which has been going on. The question of reciprocity with Canada has been debated so long that it will be a genuine disappointment to the country at large if some arrangement is not made at this time, when events have led so closely to such action. And so we are confronted with a situation where Canada is insisting upon a certain clause in a reciprocity treaty and the entire country looking for some arrangement, and resentful of any local interest that may seem to interfere with the speedy carrying out of the stipulations of the treaty which we understand has been prepared at Washington.

This is the real danger of the situation. This condition of the public mind is now being reflected in some of our American exchanges, where the argument is made that the interests of the entire country ought not to be sacrificed for the interests of the one community, our own, and the lesser fishing interests of the United States.

For years New England fought for free hides for its shoe business. For a similar number of years the cattle producers and packers of the west declared that such a change in the tariff law was not for their advantage.

Finally New England won and was set down as selfish and unmindful of the best good of the west. Now that we have come to a discussion of a New England raw product we anticipate the members of congress from the middle west will more than once allude to the history of the tariff and assert that what is "sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." If New England, for the sake of its manufactures can take the protection from hides, then the farmers and packers of the west may manifest no interest on the fish question, when, as they may assert, an entire reciprocal arrangement is endangered by an insistence upon this one point.

It is possible there may be a middle ground upon which there can be agreement without doing so much damage to Gloucester as is alleged will follow the ratification of the treaty as at present it may be prepared. If so there ought to be a working for it. We predict grave danger in an arbitrary insistence upon everything that may appear to be for Gloucester's good, though we should like to see the city favored in every way, but we do not believe the temper of the country is such at the present time, after all the discussion of the tariff and reciprocity, that there will be patience shown in endangering an entire reciprocal relation for the sake of one industry.

Further than this, there is the divided condition of mind here at home upon one phase of this question. This naturally weakens the case of Gloucester at Washington, if it is made known there. For some time there has been a growing feeling on the part of many that the admission of green fish free would not be a bad thing. This is indicated by the vigor of the discussion which has taken place recently in the columns of the Times and in the meetings of the Board of Trade. To set this aside lightly is unwise. This feeling has to be met, and at this time, when the question of free fish becomes so critical, the disposition in favor of this admission here at home becomes even more important.

The business men of the city are to be encouraged in their evident intention to get before the Washington authorities their belief in the danger of free fish and their work will be watched with a great deal of interest. The best good of Gloucester is what is desired, but it looks to us like a tremendous fight.

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HALIBUTER HAD PERILOUS TRIP.

Sch. John Hays Hammond Battled Steady Gales For Nineteen Days.

Had Narrow Escape From Foundering From Weight of Ice.

With \$4000 worth of halibut in her holds the sch. John Hays Hammond of this port sailed into Portland harbor at daylight Tuesday morning. She came from Quero bank says a Portland exchange, in one of the hardest trips ever experienced by a halibut fisherman.

For 19 days the handsome schooner which is one of the largest on the coast, had been battling against the elements with the wind blowing from every point of the compass. Once during her stay on Quero she was nearly lost and during the trip to Portland she was forced to heave to for 24 hours to weather a hurricane.

"I have been 'halibuting' for the past 20 years," said Capt. Fred Thompson, "and I have been to Quero many times, but believe me I never encountered such severe weather as we have passed through on the trip ended here today. You can bet that all hands on board are thankful that the trip is over as one week ago today every man on board thought we would go to the bottom of the Atlantic. As long as a fishing vessel remains above water you are perfectly safe, but when she commences to go down at the bow it is time to get a bit worried.

"We sailed from Gloucester Thursday evening, January 5, and made the trip to the Quero fishing grounds in five days. For the first few days we

had rough seas and strong winds, but we were able to do some fishing. There was not an ideal fishing day while we were down there and had we not been pretty lucky we would have been forced to return home without a single fish in the hold.

"There were moderate spells and we took advantage of the let up by getting all the fish we could so before we left we had about 22,000 pounds of halibut in the hold.

Ice Formed on Forward Deck Four Feet in Thickness.

"Last Tuesday the temperature was very low and the forward rigging became a mass of ice. From the bow to the fore-castle companionway it was fully four feet in thickness and under the weight of several tons the bow of the vessel was pulled down and the seas swept over the deck. At times we expected to see the vessel plunge bow first to bottom.

"For fully 12 hours the crew was busy in chopping away the ice and Wednesday the vessel was in shape to sail once more. Thursday we started on the trip from Quero to Portland and if ever a vessel sailed fast John Hays Hammond did. The weather blew a gale constantly and her decks were under water during the greater part of the trip as she averaged 10 miles each day on the trip of 600 miles to this port. Friday was a tough day for us as the wind had increased to a hurricane and we 'hove to.' We had

to do it as it was impossible to sail in such a living gale and when a fisherman takes in sail it is blowing some.

"Fortunately we rode the gale out in fine shape and the vessel was not damaged so during the night we got underway once more and scooted along for Portland. We did not carry away any sail on the trip, because we were prepared for bad weather. We did lose our starboard anchor on the fishing grounds and I will have to go back to Gloucester to fit out before going back to the fishing grounds."

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FISH PRICES DROP AT T WHARF.

BUT SOME OF THE VESSELS WITH GOOD FARES WILL MAKE PAYING TRIPS.

A dozen sail are at T wharf today. The steam trawler Spray is in the bunch and hails for but 45,000 pounds of fish, evidently striking poor fishing. Sch. Vanessa of the off-shore fleet has 75,000 pounds, mostly haddock, and will stock well, notwithstanding the price is low. Sch. Jessie Costa of the Provincetown fleet and schs. Aspinet, Alice and Rose Standish of the market boats also have good fares.

Capt. Larry Norris struck his hake spot all right this time and will get well paid for it, as in his fare of 69,000 pounds he has 46,000 pounds of "goats" which are selling at from \$4.50 to \$5.25 according to size.

Haddock, offshore stock, brought \$1.70 right through and shores sold for \$2.50. Large cod were \$4 to \$5 and pollock \$3. Cusk went from \$1.50 to \$2.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are: Sch. Rose Standish, 10,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Thomas Brundage, 7000 pollock. Sch. Walter P. Goulart, 5000 haddock, 1500 cod, 1200 pollock.

Sch. Vanessa, 70,000 haddock, 3000 cod.

Sch. Alice, 14,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 3000 pollock.

Steamer Spray, 44,000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Sch. Josie and Phebe, 4000 haddock, 6000 cod, 46,000 hake, 13,000 cusk.

Sch. Edith Silveria, 4000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Aspinet, 13,000 haddock, 3500 cod, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Stranger, 1700 haddock, 600 cod,

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3500 pollock.

Sch. Manomet, 3000 haddock, 3000 cod, 4000 hake.

Sch. Jessie Costa, 16,000 haddock, 2500 cod, 1000 pollock.

Haddock, \$1.70 to \$2.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$5; market cod, \$2.50 to \$3; pollock, \$3; hake, \$4.50 to \$5.25; cusk, \$1.50 to \$2.

BIG HALIBUT STOCK.

Crew of Sch. John Hays Hammond Shared From \$94 to \$126 Each.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, Capt. Fred Thompson, stocked \$4112 as the result of her recent quick fresh halibut trip to Quero bank, the crew sharing all the way from \$41 to \$126. About all of them had some handline caught fish, some having more than others, which accounts for the variation in the share. Capt. Thompson has made a big start which augurs well for another of those big year's work for which he is justly famous.

Pollock Schooling Off Maine Coast.

Pollock are schooling off the Maine coast. Many of the steamers that have been hauled up since the close of the herring season are now out seining and some of the schooners have also begun chasing the pollock.

Tuesday, the steamer Pet, the first to arrive at Portland with a fare of pollock, brought in 18,000 pounds of the black-backed fish. The price paid for them was high and the crew stock-ed about \$450, which is good profit for a two days trip.

Yesterday afternoon the steamers Geisha and Bessie M. Dugan which have been at Boston came into Portland but they did not fish. They will start out at once.

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LATEST FROM THE HERRING FLEET.

CAPTAINS WHO HAVE BEEN SUPERINTENDING LOADING HAVE ARRIVED HOME.

Capt. Carl C. Young, Joseph V. Bonia, Lemuel Firth, Frank H. Hall and Archibald Devine, who have been at Bay of Islands, N. F., this season superintending the loading of fleets for various concerns, have arrived home.

They report cold weather every day of late and consider that few if any of the fleet will stay and take any chances with the ice in an attempt to finish up cargoes. They are of the opinion that practically the whole fleet has sailed for home, both from Bonne bay as well as Placentia bay.

The estimate of the various captains on what herring there are to come is very close and shows but slight variation. The most optimistic set it at an average of about half a load per vessel, while others think it will not quite come up to that mark. All seem to agree that it will not go over the former amount.

They seem to think that while the situation of the four vessels in the ice recently at Bay of Islands was not as bad as was presumed here, still it was bad enough, and they feel that schs. Dauntless, Ella M. Goodwin and S. P. Willard were lucky to get out. Sch. Constellation, they seem to think, will stay there for the rest of the season, unless like last season, there should be no gulf ice come down, and then the chances of getting out when the bay ice breaks up in February would be pretty good.

All agree that the season has been a hard one, with a scarcity of herring and extremes of weather.

at Birchy Cove.

Dispatches from Birchy Cove, Bay of Islands, last night state that sch. Constellation is still in the ice. The weather yesterday was stormy and cold and the ice field now extended way out to Woods Island. The frozen herring of sch. Constellation have been taken out and shipped via rail to Port au Basques, where sch. Clintonia, another of Mr. Merchant's fleet, will take them on, in addition to her own cargoes and proceed home. Sch. Clintonia arrived at Port au Basques from Bay of Islands yesterday.

Two Vessels Will Load Cargoes of Salt Cod.

Three American vessels were at Port au Basques yesterday, taking on frozen herring, all three crafts coming from Bay of Islands. Two of the fleet from Bay of Islands, which had no herring, have gone to Burgeo and Belleoram for cargoes of salt cod.

Herring Vessels on Way Home.

A telegram to the Times this morning states that four of the Newfoundland herring fleet, bound home, passed by Liverpool, N. S., yesterday. Sch. Arkona was one of the vessels.

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It is the opinion among the fishing captains that the pollock have not left the Maine coast at all this winter, as has been the case in previous seasons but are staying right through. The warm weather of the past few days and the lack of snow and ice in the water has caused them to school, so that the fishermen are now reaping the benefit with their seines.

Will Fit for Pollock Seining.

Capt. G. Melville McClain will fit sch. Margie Smith for pollock seining and steamer Jeffery is also fitting out under command of Capt. Al Sadler. It is sure, too, that several other crafts will soon fit out for pollock seining as the fish are now schooling off here and last season the crafts engaged in seining them made most profitable work of it.

Halibut Sold at 15 Cents Per Pound.

The fare of fresh halibut of sch. John Hays Hammond which was landed at Portland on Tuesday, brought 15 cents per pound right through, the craft weighing off 25,000 pounds.

Schooners Spoken on Quero Bank.

Capt. Fred Thompson of sch. John Hays Hammond reports schs. Senator and Waldo L. Stream on Quero bank recently.

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FREE FISH TOPIC OF DISCUSSION

All Interests Will Make United Effort to Prevent Its Consummation.

Details of Reciprocity Agreement to Be Announced Today.

Everybody in this city is anxiously awaiting the word from Washington as to the fate of the fish schedule in the reciprocity agreement, the terms of which, it is promised, will be made public in Washington today, after nearly a week of the most absolute secrecy.

Everywhere that men congregate it is the one subject of discussion and the common "how do you do" form of salutation has been replaced for the time being here, by the words, "heard anything yet?"

The committee appointed to go to Washington to assist Congressman Gardner in his fight, should the terms of the treaty contain any concessions or changes in the fish tariff schedule, are all ready and primed to do their best. This evening another meeting of the Master Mariners Association and fish producers will be held at 8 o'clock, in the rooms of the former and the whole matter will be talked over, as it is expected that something definite will be known by that hour.

The meeting tonight, at the rooms of the master mariners association will be a wake. It is not for master mariners and fish producers alone; it is for all business men and working men who feel that any change in the present fish tariff schedule would be detrimental or damaging to the welfare of the city of Gloucester.

Change in Fish Schedule Believed to Be Serious One.

The general opinion here seems to be that the change in the fish sched-

ule is a serious one. One usually well posted and observing man is of the opinion that it will be practically free fish, with the expectation that a big fight will be made against it, with the result that a compromise will be reached which will result either in free fish altogether or quite a reduction on that kind of fish.

But few opinions have been expressed in the Provinces as to the contents of the document, but the Ottawa correspondent of the Halifax Chronicle has sent the following to his paper:

"Beyond the fact that there has been an understanding reached, the members of the government are without information. There is a well founded report that the understanding has not taken the form of a treaty, but an agreement to put through concurrent legislation, which with the propinquity of the two countries, will put the trade of Canada and the United States on a more favorable basis for the exchange of a greater volume of business.

"It is understood that one of the concessions which has been made to Canada is that placing of fresh fish on the United States free list. This will open an enlarged market for the sea products of the Lakes as well as the Atlantic and Pacific. It is pretty well understood that Canada has agreed to modifications in duty on agricultural implements which will operate to the advantage of the Canadian farmer both East and West.

"It is believed that the government has acted on the principle that the first step toward reciprocity should be largely experimental and that the best interests of the majority in the country should be consulted without regard to what criticism will follow. Before the end of the week announcement will be made and the fight in Parliament on it will have begun."

Portland Fish Notes.

Tuesday saw the greatest amount of fish landed at Portland in one day of the winter. All varieties of fish were represented and all kinds of craft brought them in. The total was well over a hundred thousand pounds. The following were the fares reported: Schs. John Hays Hammond, 25,000 halibut, 5000 hake, 4000 salt cod; Albert D. Willard, 12,000 mixed; Albert W. Black, 12,000 mixed; Edmund F. Black, 4000 mixed; George H. Lube, 4000 mixed; Eva and Mildred, 6000 mixed; Katie L. Palmer, 4000 mixed; Mary E. Sinnett, 2000 mixed; Lizzie May, 10,000 mixed; Lochinvar, 11,000 mixed; Watauga, 2000 mixed; steamer Pet, 18,000 pollock; steamer Brown, 1000 pollock; small boats, 10,000 mixed Total, 140,000.

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THE NOVA SCOTIA LOBSTER FISHERY.

Invasion of Grounds by American Fishermen Causes Alarm.

The following article by Colin McKay, recently appeared in the Halifax Herald. It will be found interesting reading here:

"While many Canadian politicians and publicists were joyfully proclaiming that the award of The Hague Tribunal had settled the fisheries question to our advantage our American cousins were inaugurating an enterprise which, if continued, will undoubtedly ruin our lobster fisheries, at present the most valuable branch of our Atlantic fisheries. At a time when our own government prohibited the lobster fisheries, American smacks began to come down to the Nova Scotia coast and catch lobsters just outside the three-mile limit—on the very grounds where our own fishermen set their traps during the few months they are permitted to fish for lobsters.

"As yet only a small number of American smacks have engaged in this new industry, and they have confined their operations to the southwestern

shores of the province. But naturally the Yankee invasion of our lobster fisheries has caused considerable alarm all along the coast. The Americans have about exhausted their own lobster fisheries, and as the succulent crustacean commands fancy prices, Yankee smacks may be expected to come down to our coast in increasing numbers for the purpose of taking lobsters just outside our territorial waters. At present there is no international agreement that might be invoked against them. Our government cannot oblige them to observe the close season or other ordinances designed to protect the lobster fisheries, as it does our own people. In short, these American smacks may pursue their operations the year round, deplete the grounds upon which our fishermen have been accustomed to work, and so rob thousands of our people of their principal means of livelihood.

Provincial Fishermen See Menace in American Boats.

"The menace of this possibility is a serious matter to Nova Scotia. According to the reports of the department of fisheries, the province has for some years past derived a larger value from its lobster fisheries than from its cod fisheries, and yet it is well known that while the department's estimate of the value of the lobster catch is based on prices ranging from \$5 to \$10 per crate, the prices the majority of fishermen actually receive ranges from \$10 up, occasionally to as high as \$30. Our government only permits our own fishermen to fish for lobsters three and one-half or four and one-half months in the year, and as the season which varies slightly with the locality, begins or ends in the winter time, they are lucky if they are able to fish six or eight weeks during the season. Yet the fishermen find the lobster fisheries much more lucrative than any other branch of our sea fisheries. In fact it is generally admitted that the present prosperity of the people of the south shore of Nova Scotia is largely founded on the development of the lobster fisheries.

"Up to a few weeks ago the shore fishermen, who have always had a free market for lobsters in the states, had very friendly feelings towards the Americans, and were even in favor of allowing American fishing vessels the privilege of using our ports to buy supplies, ship crews and transport fares, but now they are beginning to realize the menace to their interests of this new enterprise on the part of the Yankees, it is very likely that they will modify their views. Certainly they would never consent to give these lobster smacks from the states the port privileges which they are willing to accord to the American codfishing vessels operating on the deep sea banks. If these American smacks could buy bait and ship crews in our ports and tranship their catches from points on the coast to Boston, it is quite probable that the New England fish trust would prohibit American dealers handling lobsters shipped directly by our fishermen, and that as a consequence the Americans would absorb all the profits of this industry, while reducing our own shore fishermen to the position of mere hirelings—the position now occupied by so many of the shore fishermen of Newfoundland.

"For some time past there has been an agitation for a conference between the governments of Canada, Newfoundland, the United States and France for the purpose of devising regulations, applicable to all fishermen, for the better protection of the Atlantic fisheries. No doubt the latest development of American enterprise will induce our government to try to secure the holding of such a conference as soon as possible. Something must be done to check the American invasion of the lobster fishing grounds off our coast, or a situation may speedily arise fraught with menace to the friendly relations of the two countries. Men who follow so hazardous a calling as that of the fishermen are rather prone to reckless action. It is not so long ago that Canadian fishermen in out of the way places used to take pot-shots at our own fishery protection cruisers, and it is only last summer that the Nova Scotia skipper of an American banker fired on a French beam trawler."

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DR. BITTING MADE CALL.

Pleased That Report on Preparation of Salt Fish Was So Well Received.

Dr. A. W. Bitting, whose recent report on the preparing of cod and other salt fish for market and a study into the causes of reddening of salt fish, has recently been issued by the Bureau of Chemistry, of the Department of Agriculture, was in town Tuesday afternoon for a brief stay and called at the Board of Trade, as well as on many of the fish people whom he met while conducting his experiments here.

He seemed pleased that his report had been so well received and hoped that it would prove in the end a real benefit to the fish business of the place. The report in the Times concerning his work here and his recommendations he said was put in a fair and clear manner.

Dr. Bitting while here found much of exceptional interest to him, and his report is certainly most complete and exhaustive and worthy of careful reading by all.

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FIVE FISH FARES AT THIS PORT.

TWO FRESH FISH TRIPS, TWO OF POLLOCK AND ONE FARE FROZEN HERRING.

There is something doing in the fish line here this morning. Two haddockers with fine fares, two pollockers with trips and a Newfoundlander with full cargo of frozen herring was the list early this forenoon, with more of the herring fleet looked for during the day. From Georges sch. Ingomar, Capt. Horace Wildes, has another of his rapid transit trips, hauling for 80,000 pounds. Sch. Rex, Capt. John Grady, also has a nice catch, 65,000 or 70,000 pounds.

Sch. Avalon, after a most tempestuous trip home, especially that part of it from Bay of Islands to North Sydney, which harbor she made looking like a big iceberg, has got along and has a full cargo of frozen herring, which at this time are worth a good many dollars.

The steamer Nomad went out yesterday morning looking for the pollock schools which were reported off here. She found them all right and found them plenty, for one sweep of the seine took in from 40,000 to 50,000. Anyway the steamer was loaded with all she could carry, seineboat and all and hustled to port, getting in last evening. The fish were landed and are being dressed and will be shipped to Boston.

The success of the Nomad, right at the start, will cause a large fleet to at once show signs of animation and start out with seineboats in tow. Last year the first catch was made February 3, but the fish had been reported schooling before that and it is believed that they have been on the shore all winter.

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Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Avalon, Bay of Islands, N. F., 300 bbls. frozen herring 32 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Ingomar, Georges, 80,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Rex, Georges, 65,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Steamer Nomad, shore, 50,000 lbs. fresh pollock.

Steamer Bethula, shore, 12,000 lbs. fresh pollock. Iced and did not land.

Sch. Rose Standish, shore.

Sch. Elva L. Spurling, shore.

Sch. Nokomis, shore.

Sch. Jeannette, shore.

Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore.

Sch. Walter P. Goulart, shore.

Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, shore.

Sch. Rita A. Viator, shore.

Sch. Ida S. Brooks, shore.

Steamer Elthier, shore.

Sch. Mary DeCosta, shore.

Steamer Philomena, shore.

Sch. Buema, shore.

Sch. Hope, shore.

Sch. Matthew S. Greer, shore.

Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring, \$3.62 1/2 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.

Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.

Bank halibut 14 3-4 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.

Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.

Splitting prices for fresh fish:

Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.

Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.

Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.